

Message Text

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63

ACTION PM-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 T-03 MC-02 OMB-01 SS-14 NSC-10 IGA-02 PRS-01

EB-11 RSR-01 /076 W

----- 075519

R 161621 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6555

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 2120

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT BY SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND CHIEF OF
STAFF- COLOMBIAN INTEREST IN TANKS

DEPT PASS DOD FOR DEPT OF THE ARMY USCINCSO FOR J-5

REF: 230064 AND BOGOTA'S 8739

WITHIN THE LAST FEW DAYS AN INFLUENTIAL COLOMBIAN ARMY GENERAL
APPROACHED THE MILGRP REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY, WITH THE CESSATION
OF HOSTILITIES IN VIETNAM, OF PURCHASING EXCESS M48 A3 TANKS.
THE QUERY INDICATES A SHIFT BY THE COLOMBIANS AWAY FROM THE
ATTITUDE WE REPORTED IN OUR 8739, WHEN WE SAID THE GOC WAS
INTERESTED
IN LIGHT TANKS. THE SHIFT PROBABLY STEMS FROM THE UNAVAILABILITY OF
LIGHT TANKS. (PARENTHETICALLY, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING
WHETHER A POLICY DECISION HAS BEEN MADE ON THE SALE OF TANKS
TO CHILE.)

2. IF THE GOC MAKES A FORMAL REQUEST FOR M48 A3 TANKS, THE AMB
FAVORS AN OFFER TO SELL A LIMITED NUMBER, NOT TO EXCEED 25.

3. WE RECOMMEND THAT SECRETARY FROEHLKE AND THE CHIEF OF
STAFF BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT IN DEPTH IF IT IS RAISED
BY THE COLOMBIANS.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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